

COURT OF APPEAL

PRACTICE NOTE No 1 of 2016

1. This Practice Note, which is issued with the concurrence of the President and Judges of the Court of Appeal, applies to applications for leave to appeal and applications for extension of time within which to appeal in civil cases.
2. The court has become increasingly concerned at the amount of its time which these applications have been consuming. Not infrequently, after hearings lasting for a day or more, they have also generated substantial judgments, the writing of which cuts deeply into the time available for the consideration of appeals, civil as well as criminal. Then, in cases in which leave to appeal is granted or an extension of time is given, the court will often find itself again engaged in the hearing of the substantive appeal for another considerable period, producing yet further judgments.
3. In an effort to keep the time spent in the hearing and consideration of these applications within acceptable limits, members of the profession are hereby advised of the following changes in the practice of the court:
 - i. In general, the maximum time allocated to the hearing of applications for leave to appeal/extension of time will be one hour, with the applicant and the respondent being allowed half an hour each for oral submissions.
 - ii. Any request for additional time must be justified in advance and in writing by the party making the request to the Registrar, within seven (7) days of the date fixed for the hearing of the application. Such requests will generally only be entertained for good reason shown in exceptional cases.
 - iii. Upon completion of the hearing of such applications, the court will ordinarily give its decision, with brief reasons, within a period of no more than fourteen (14) days. If the application is granted, the court's reasons will usually be given orally.
4. These changes will take effect immediately.
5. The court intends to keep this matter under close review with a view to making improvements where indicated. To this end, any suggestions from members of the profession will naturally be given careful consideration.

Dated the 8th day of February 2016



**C. Dennis Morrison, OJ, CD
President of the Court of Appeal**